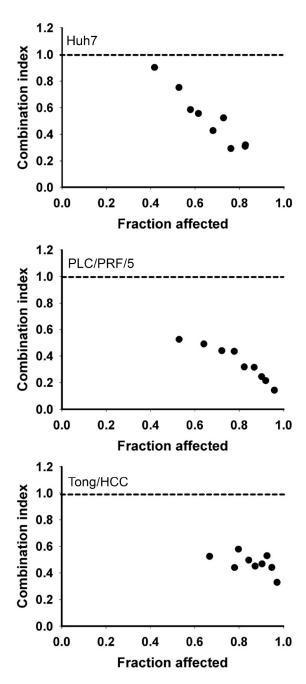
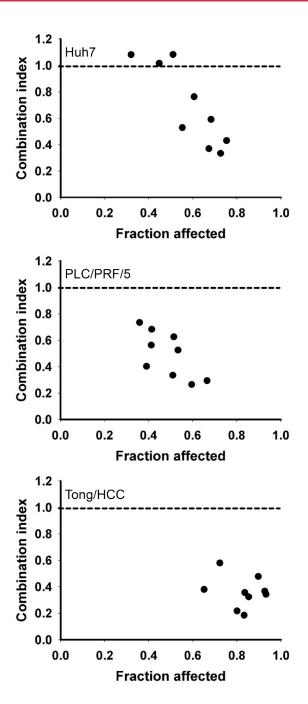
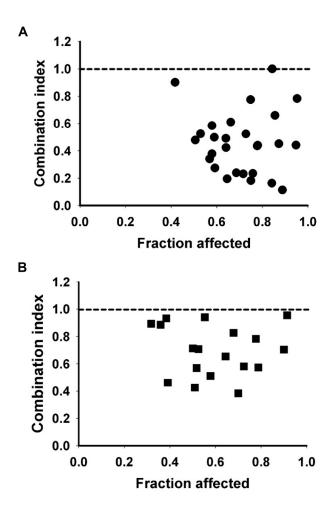
## SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES AND TABLES



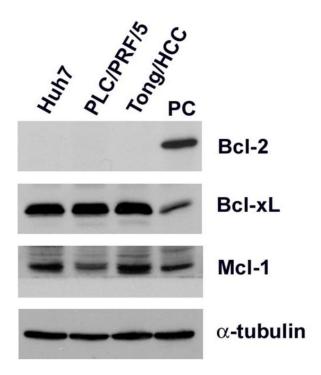
**Supplementary Figure 1: Synergistic effects of eAFP-VISA-BikDD plus Dox against human HCC cell lines.** Combination indices (CIs) of eAFP-VISA-BikDD combined with Dox versus the inhibition of cell survival (fraction affected; FA) were calculated by the CalcuSyn software. CI values > 1, = 1 and < 1 represent antagonism, additive effect and synergism, respectively. Top, Huh7; middle, PLC/PRF/5; and bottom, Tong/HCC cells.



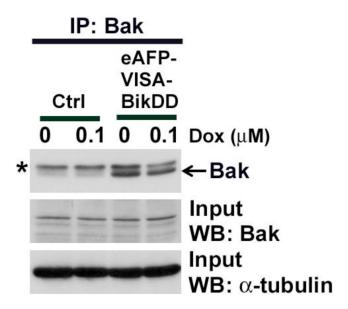
**Supplementary Figure 2: Synergistic effects of eAFP-VISA-BikDD plus 5-FU against human HCC cell lines.** Combination index (CI) plots of eAFP-VISA-BikDD plus 5-FU versus the inhibition of cell survival (fraction affected; FA) were calculated by the CalcuSyn software. CI values > 1, =1 and < 1 represent antagonism, additive effect or synergism, respectively. Top, Huh7; middle, PLC/PRF/5; and bottom, Tong/HCC cells.



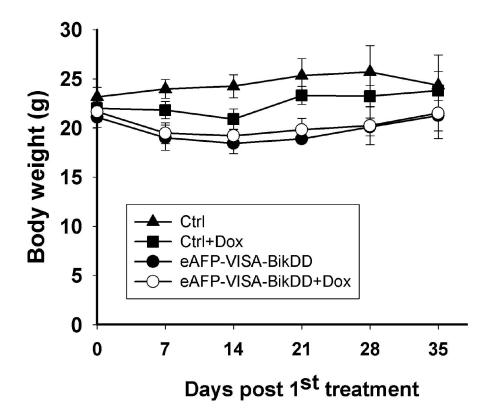
Supplementary Figure 3: Comparison of the killing effects of eAFP-VISA-BikDD/Dox versus eAFP-VISA-BikDD/5-FU under pathologically relevant concentration in HCC. Recalculation of the CI index from various concentration of eAFP-VISA-BikDD combined with clinically achievable doses of 0.1  $\mu$ M Dox A. or 5  $\mu$ M 5-FU B. in HCC cell lines from three independent experiments.



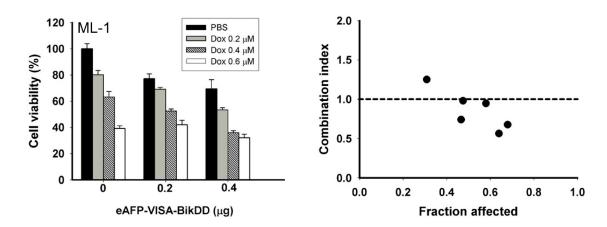
Supplementary Figure 4: Expression of anti-apoptotic proteins in HCC cell lines. Huh7, PLC/PRF/5 and Tong/HCC cell lysates were subjected to Western blot analysis with the indicated antibodies. Cell extract from Jurkat cells served as positive control (PC).



**Supplementary Figure 5: Activated Bak levels in combination therapy.** Huh7 cells were transfected with eAFP-VISA-BikDD for 4 hours. After transfection, the transfection mixture was replaced by DMEM complete medium containing Dox (0.1 μM) for additional 24 hours. Cell lysates were collected in 1% CHAPS lysis buffer and subjected to immunoprecipitation with anti-Bak antibody. Asterisk denotes the IgG light chain.



**Supplementary Figure 6: Body weight of mice during the indicated treatment.** Huh7 tumor-bearing SCID mice were administered the indicated treatment as described in Materials and Methods. Body weight was monitored and recorded weekly. Values are presented as mean ±SD.



Supplementary Figure 7: Synergistic effects of combination therapy of eAFP-VISA-BikDD and Dox in ML-1 cells *in vitro*. ML-1 cells were transfected with indicated concentrations of eAFP-VISA-BikDD for 4 hours. Transfection mixtures were then replaced by fresh DMEM complete medium containing various concentrations of Dox for an additional 72 hours. Cytotoxic effects were evaluated by sulforhodamine B (SRB) assay. Relative cell viability was normalized to untreated cells (set as 100%). Data represent mean ±SD. Combination indices (CIS) were calculated by the CalcuSyn software. CI values > 1, =1 and < 1 represent antagonism, additive effect, and synergism, respectively.

## Supplementary Table 1: Combination therapy enhances apoptosis in HCC cells in vitro

| <b>Treatment Groups</b>         | Huh7             | PLC/PRF/5        | Tong/HCC         |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Control (Ctrl)                  | $4.88 \pm 0.28$  | $0.32 \pm 0.08$  | $4.46 \pm 0.01$  |
| Dox (0.1 μM)                    | $14.3 \pm 0.01$  | $6.5 \pm 0.81$   | $14.56 \pm 0.23$ |
| eAFP-VISA-BikDD                 | $30.44 \pm 1.01$ | $23.84 \pm 2.4$  | $27.7 \pm 1.01$  |
| eAFP-VISA-BikDD/Dox<br>(0.1 μM) | $42.37 \pm 2.34$ | $34.86 \pm 3.82$ | $34.93 \pm 0.94$ |

Data represent mean ±SD from 3 independent experiments. Values shown are percentage of Sub-G1 cells.

## **Supplementary Table 2: Combination therapy inhibits metastasis of HCC**

| Treatment Groups                 | Mean number of pulmonary metastases |  |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Control (Ctrl)                   | $47.2 \pm 8.7$                      |  |
| Dox (0.5 mg/kg)                  | $64.4 \pm 13.5$                     |  |
| eAFP-VISA-BikDD                  | 2.2 ± 1.0*                          |  |
| eAFP-VISA-BikDD+ Dox (0.5 mg/kg) | $1.2 \pm 1.2*$                      |  |

Data represent mean  $\pm$ SEM. N = 5. \*P < 0.05.

## Supplementary Table 3: Molar ratios for the eAFP-VISA-BikDD and Dox combination in HCC cells

| Cell line | eAFP-VISA-BikDD (μg) | Dox (μM) | <b>Combination index</b> | Molar ratio (eAFP-VISA-BikDD:Dox) |
|-----------|----------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Huh7      | 0.05                 | 0.1      | 0.9                      | 1:1                               |
|           | 0.05                 | 0.25     | 0.75                     | 1:2                               |
|           | 0.05                 | 0.4      | 0.56                     | 1:4                               |
|           | 0.1                  | 0.1      | 0.59                     | 2:1                               |
|           | 0.1                  | 0.25     | 0.43                     | 1:1                               |
|           | 0.1                  | 0.4      | 0.29                     | 1:2                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.1      | 0.52                     | 4:1                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.25     | 0.31                     | 2:1                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.4      | 0.32                     | 1:1                               |
| PLC/PRF/5 | 0.1                  | 0.1      | 0.53                     | 1:2                               |
|           | 0.1                  | 0.25     | 0.44                     | 1:4                               |
|           | 0.1                  | 0.5      | 0.32                     | 1:8                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.1      | 0.49                     | 1:1                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.25     | 0.32                     | 1:2                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.5      | 0.22                     | 1:4                               |
|           | 0.4                  | 0.1      | 0.44                     | 2:1                               |
|           | 0.4                  | 0.25     | 0.25                     | 1:1                               |
|           | 0.4                  | 0.5      | 0.14                     | 1:2                               |
| Tong/HCC  | 0.1                  | 0.05     | 0.52                     | 2:1                               |
|           | 0.1                  | 0.1      | 0.44                     | 1:1                               |
|           | 0.1                  | 0.25     | 0.50                     | 1:2                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.05     | 0.58                     | 4:1                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.1      | 0.45                     | 2:1                               |
|           | 0.2                  | 0.25     | 0.47                     | 1:1                               |
|           | 0.4                  | 0.05     | 0.53                     | 8:1                               |
|           | 0.4                  | 0.1      | 0.44                     | 4:1                               |
|           | 0.4                  | 0.25     | 0.33                     | 2:1                               |